

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6178
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S E C R E T JAKARTA 0754

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EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR ID
SUBJ: US-INDONESIAN BILATERAL LOS CONSULTATIONS

REF: A. JAKARTA 027 B. STATE 281133 C. JAKARTA 14917

1. SUMMARY. AS FOLLOW-UP REF A, I MET WITH AIR
MARSHAL SOEDARMONO JANUARY 17 FOR DISCUSSION FURTHER
STEPS TO BE TAKEN IN US-INDONESIAN LOS BILATERALS.
SOEDARMONO WAS OPTIMISTIC AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED
ON THREE REMAINING POINTS: PASSAGE, EXTERNALIZATION
OF AGREEMENT, AND SEALANES AND AIR CORRIDORS.
FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, HE
PROPOSES SENDING WRITTEN PROPOSALS TO WASHINGTON, TO
BE FOLLOWED BY A VISIT IF NECESSARY. END SUMMARY

2. SOEDARMONO MADE CAREFUL PRESENTATION OF VIEWS
ON REMAINING POINTS REQUIRING BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS:

A. PASSAGE. SOEDARMONO NOTED THAT US
AND INDONESIA VIEWS BASICALLY SIMILAR SINCE INDONESIAN
DEFINITION OF "INNOCENT PASSAGE" MEANS PASSAGE WITHOUT
HARM TO COASTAL STATE(HE MADE NO MENTION OF NOTIFICATION)
WHILE US "FREE PASSAGE" MEANS MUCH SAME THING. SINCE

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NEITHER SIDE CAN ACCEPT OTHER'S TERM, SOEDARMONO

INCLINING TOWARDS BRITISH-PROPOSED "TRANSIT PASSAGE" WITH CAREFUL DEFINITION ALONG LINES BRITISH HAVE SUGGESTED. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION, SOEDARMONO MADE IT CLEAR THAT "TRANSIT PASSAGE" CONCEPT WOULD APPLY EQUALLY TO PASSAGE THROUGH ARCHIPELAGIC AND STRAITS WATERS.

B. EXTERNALIZATION OF AGREEMENT. ASSUMING US AND INDONESIA WILL REACH FULL AGREEMENT, SOEDARMONO NOTED QUESTION REMAINED HOW US WOULD EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR ARCHIPELAGIC CONCEPT AND INDONESIA FOR "TRANSIT PASSAGE." ONE POSSIBILITY WOULD BE FOR US TO GIVE OVERT SUPPORT AT LOS CONFERENCE FOR INDONESIA-PROPOSED ARCHIPELAGIC CONCEPT AND INDONESIA TO SPEAK IN SUPPORT OF US-BACKED PASSAGE PROPOSAL. AT OTHER END OF SPECTRUM TWO PARTIES COULD, AS IN CARACAS, MERELY NOT OPPOSE ONE ANOTHER'S PROPOSALS. SOEDARMONO SAID HE HAD NOT YET MADE UP HIS MIND WHAT TO RECOMMEND.

C. SEALANES AND AIR CORRIDORS. SOEDARMONO SAID THAT CONCEPTUALLY US AND INDONESIA AGREE THAT SEALANES SHOULD BE WIDE ENOUGH FOR SAFE PASSAGE AND SOME DEGREE OF PROTECTION, REMAINING QUESTION BEING WHAT DEGREE OF PROTECTION. IN PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS HE HAD SUGGESTED 40 MILES WIDTH AND PROFESSOR MOORE 60 MILES (REF C). SOEDARMONO DOES NOT WISH TO GET IN BARGAINING SESSION OVER FINAL WIDTH BUT RATHER DEVELOP DEFINITION OF NECESSARY DEGREE OF PROTECTION WHICH WILL LOGICALLY CALL FOR A CERTAIN WIDTH. TURNING TO QUESTION OF UNIMPEDED OVERFLIGHT, SOEDARMONO SAID INDONESIA WISHES TO ESTABLISH LIMITATIONS WHICH WILL PROVIDE SUCH FREEDOM ONLY TO JET, AND NOT TURBOPROP OR PROPELLER CRAFT. REASONING FOR THIS IS THAT LIMITATION TO JETS ALONE WOULD, AT LEAST FOR MOMENT, EXCLUDE PRC PLANES. THROUGHOUT DISCUSSION, SOEDARMONO USED "ILLUSTRATIVE" EXAMPLE OF "22,000 FEET AND OVER" (MOORE'S SUGGESTION DURING DECEMBER TALKS-REF C). BELOW 22,000 FEET "SPACE RESERVATION" RULE WOULD APPLY.

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EM ON QUESTION OF FUTURE US-INDONESIAN BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS, SOEDARMONO STATED THAT HE AND OTHER LOS EXPERTS WILL BE HOLDING TALKS WITH ARCHIPELAGIC AND NON-ARCHIPELAGIC NATIONS UP TO MID FEBRUARY. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE MENTIONED A STATEMENT MADE JANUARY 16 BY PROFESSOR MOCHTAR THAT OUTGOING FOREIGN DEPARTMENT INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CHIEF

KAMIL WOULD BE LEADING A LOS TEAM TO AFRICA WHILE UN AMBASSADOR SANI WOULD UNDERTAKE A SIMILAR TASK IN THE MIDDLE EAST. (IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION RE CONSULTATIONS WITH USSR, SOEDARMONO STATED INDONESIA GENERALLY ASSUMES US REPRESENTS ALL MAJOR MARITIME POWERS AND THAT WE KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH THEM. USSR AT ONE TIME PROPOSED A FURTHER MEETING WITH INDONESIA BUT HAS ALLOWED THE MATTER TOSLIDE. GOI WOULD MEET WITH RUSSIANS IF THEY REVIVE IDEA.) SOEDARMONO SAID THAT, WHEN PROJECTED CONSULTATIONS ARE FINISHED, HE WOULD IN MID-FEBRUARY SEND VIA EMBASSY TO WASHINGTON AJITTEN PROPOSALS COVERING REMAINING POINTS NEEDING AGREEMENT. IF US GND INDONESIA COULD REACH FINAL AGREEMENT WITHOUT ADDITIONAL BILATERAL, FINE; IF NOT, HE WOULD THEN BE PREPARED TO GO TO WASHINGTON.

4. COMMENT: WHILE PROFESSOR MOORE AND LOS TEAM ARE IN BETTER POSITION TO JUDGE, I HAD FEELING SOEDARMONO IS PULLING BACK SLIGHTLY FROM EARLIER POSITION. IF SO, THIS IS UNDOUBTEDLY UNDER PRESSURE FROM POLITICAL SIDE WHICH REMAINS SENSITIVE TO AFRO-ASIAN OPINION, PARTICULARLY AS TIMOR ISSUE BECOMES MORE ACTIVE IN OTHER FORA. SOEDARMONO ASKED THAT HIS ASSESSMENT AND VIEWS BE CAREFULLY PROTECTED SINCE SOME WITHIN GOI-INCLUDING PROFESSOR MOCHTAR--ARE NOT IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH HIM. HE CLEARLY FEELS HE IS NOT ABLE TO COMMIT HIMSELF TO GO TO WASHINGTON UNTIL RESULTS OF POLITICAL/LOS CONSULTATIONS ARE IN AND HE HAS RECEIVED, AND REVIEWED WITH OTHERS IN GOI, WRITTEN SCOMMENTS FROM OUR SIDE OF HIS PROPOSALS. (WE ARE, OF COURSE, PREPARED TO RELAY TO SOEDARMONO ANY REACTIONS FROM WASHINGTON TO HIS COMMENTS/VIEWS REPORTED ABOVE.) NEWSOM

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